LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6431 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 13, 2010

BILL NUMBER: SB 84 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Confidentiality of Motor Vehicle Accident Reports.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Leising BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

 $\overline{\underline{X}}$ DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill provides that, with certain exceptions, a motor vehicle accident report is confidential for 90 days after the date of the accident. The bill provides that a person who obtains or attempts to obtain an accident report or draft accident report in violation of the law commits a Class A misdemeanor.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: By making motor vehicle accident reports confidential for 90 days after the date of an automobile accident, this bill may decrease requests for motor vehicle accident reports. The Indiana State Police (ISP) reports that as of December 2010, the ISP maintains a contract with Open Portal Solutions to operate the state's Vehicle Crash Records System. The contractor retains 100% of the revenues from the sale of crash reports and crash data as remuneration for the contracted services.

If the number of motor vehicle accident report requests decrease in the state, this bill may impact the contracting for motor vehicle accident reports requests and, subsequently, may alter the amount of revenue the state receives for motor vehicle accident report requests. Under the current contract, there would be no change in state revenue.

Penalty Provision: This bill may result in Class A misdemeanor convictions to the extent individuals are found to have obtained or attempted to obtain an accident report in violation of the law. If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state

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General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class A misdemeanor is \$5,000. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Penalty Provision:* A Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year in jail.

<u>Explanation of Local Revenues:</u> *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected: ISP.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Captain Sherry Beck, ISP.

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.

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